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November 05, 2014

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

22 of November 5, 2014

Sachi A. Hamai
SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**RECOMMENDATION TO AMEND THE HOMELESS FAMILY SOLUTIONS SYSTEM CONTRACT
TO INCLUDE THE CALIFORNIA WORK OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY TO KIDS
(CalWORKs) HOUSING SUPPORT PROGRAM ALLOCATION
(ALL DISTRICTS – 3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

The Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) seeks delegated authority to amend the Homeless Family Solutions System contract with Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA). The amendment will increase the contract amount for FY 2014-15 to add \$3.5 million allocated to Los Angeles County (County) by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) for the Housing Support Program (HSP). The increase will expand the resources currently available through the County's Homeless Family Solutions System (HFSS).

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Delegate authority to the Director of DPSS or her designee to prepare and execute an amendment to the HFSS contract to increase the Fiscal Year (FY) 2014-15 contract amount by \$3.5 million, for a maximum contract amount of \$10.8 million for FY 2014-15, and a total contract amount of \$25.4 million for the three-year term. The \$3.5 million increase for FY 2014-15 is fully funded by the HSP allocation. The balance of \$21.9 million is fully funded by CalWORKs Single Allocation.
2. Delegate authority to the Director of DPSS or her designee to prepare and execute amendments to the contract to increase the maximum contract amount to include additional HSP allocations from CDSS for future fiscal years during the term of the contract. The approval of County Counsel as to form will be obtained prior to executing the amendments. The Director shall notify the Chief Executive Office (CEO) and Board within ten business days of executing the amendment.

3. Delegate authority to the Director of DPSS or her designee to prepare and execute amendments to the HFSS contract for: (1) instances which affect the scope of work, term, contract sum, payment terms, or any other term or condition in the contract; (2) additions and/or changes required by the Board or CEO; (3) changes to be in compliance with applicable County, State, and federal regulations, or (4) increases or decreases of no more than ten percent of the maximum contract amount based on contractor's performance, community needs, and funding availability. The approval of County Counsel as to form will be obtained prior to executing the amendments. The Director shall notify the CEO and Board within ten business days of executing the amendment.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The CDSS recently made \$20 million available to counties through the new Housing Support Program (HSP) to provide services to homeless CalWORKs families. The money is intended to support projects that implement or expand housing services for homeless families at the county level. Los Angeles County's allocation for FY 2014-15 is \$3.5 million. The funds must be expended by June 30, 2015.

The County's HFSS provides homeless families with a seamless regional, community-based program to link families quickly and efficiently to attain stable permanent housing. The HFSS is funded by various sources, including CalWORKs Single Allocation. The HFSS is administered by LAHSA and direct services are provided through subcontracted Family Solutions Centers (FSC) located throughout the County, one FSC in each Service Planning Area (SPA) for a total of eight FSCs in the County.

As part of the HFSS system, DPSS entered into a contract with LAHSA (HFSS Contract) and provides \$7.3 million annually for services provided to CalWORKs families who are participating in the Welfare-to-Work program. Currently, CalWORKs families who are not participating in WtW activities (non-WtW) are not eligible for HFSS services funded by DPSS. The recommended action will expand eligibility to non-WtW families and provide \$3.5 million for services to that population under the HFSS Contract.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended action is consistent with the principles of the Countywide Strategic Plan, Goal 2: Community Support and Responsiveness: Enrich lives of Los Angeles County residents by providing enhanced services, and effectively planning and responding to economic, social, and environmental challenges.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The \$3.5 million increase for FY 2014-15 will be funded by the State's HSP allocation, and must be expended by June 30, 2015. The balance of the three-year contract amount of \$21.9 million is fully funded by CalWORKs Single Allocation. There is no net County cost associated with the increase.

The HSP allocation will enable LAHSA to increase the funding for subcontractors (FSC and Crisis Housing) in all eight SPAs. The funding allocation per SPA will be based on the distribution of the homeless families population.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

On February 18, 2014, the Board delegated authority to the Director of DPSS, or designee, to enter into an agreement with LASHA for the provision of HFSS services. The HFSS Contract is for a three-year term commencing on July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2017, with an option to extend the contract for up to six months.

LAHSA subcontracts with FSCs and Crisis Housing Agencies to provide HFSS services in all eight SPAs throughout the County. The subcontracts were procured by LAHSA via a competitive Request for Proposals.

The approval by County Counsel as to form will be obtained prior to executing the amendment. DPSS will notify the CEO and Board within ten days of executing the amendment.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

The HFSS Contract includes the following performance outcomes:

- 100% of homeless families will be provided with temporary shelter within 24 hours.
- 70% of homeless families served will be placed in permanent housing.
- 70% of homeless families who obtain permanent housing will not re-enter shelter within 12 months.
- 60% of homeless families who obtain permanent housing will not re-enter shelter within 24 months.

There is insufficient data at this time to measure participant outcomes because the HFSS Contract has been in effect for only three months; however, there is the following preliminary, overall data for HFSS for the period of July 1 – September 30, 2014:

- 936 families have received HFSS services since July 1, 2014: (1) 792 families enrolled from July 1 – September 30; and (2) 144 families enrolled before July 1, but continued receiving HFSS services as of July 1.
- Of the 792 families who enrolled since July 1, 2014: (1) 187 families (24%) are CalWORKs WtW participants; (2) 241 families (30%) receive CalWORKs benefits, but are not WtW participants; and (3) 364 families (46%) are not receiving CalWORKs benefits.
- Of the 936 families assisted through September 2014: (1) 400 families have been assisted with crisis housing; and (2) 180 families have been assisted with permanent housing. (Some families may have received assistance in both categories.)

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The recommended action will permit the County to provide additional housing and housing support services to homeless CalWORKs families.

The recommended action will not infringe on the role of the County in relationship to its responsibility to its residents, and the County's ability to respond to emergencies will not be impaired. There is no change in risk exposure to the County.

CONCLUSION

The Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors, is requested to return one adopted, stamped Board letter to the Director of DPSS.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Sheryl L. Spiller".

SHERYL L. SPILLER

Director

SLS:rl

c: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Deputy Chief Executive Officer